

The Great Controversy — Study Guide

(Formally published as Thought Questions and Notes on GREAT CONTROVERSY
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References

References at the end of questions refer to page and paragraph in “Great Controversy.” Thus “19:2” gives reference to paragraph 2 on page 19. Each paragraph is considered a unit and is assigned to the page on which it begins, though it may run over to the following page. Because of a difference in the paging of two current editions—due to the larger number of illustrations in one edition — two sets of references are given. The second reference, in brackets, is to the 1926 and 1927 special and subscription editions. The reader may identify the edition he is using by noting the date of the last copyright registration, which is found on the back of the title page.

Chapter 39 — The Time of Trouble

1. What does the standing up of Michael mean to

- (1) the guilty;
- (2) God’s people;
- (3) the angels of heaven;
- (4) Christ?

How will Satan’s unrestrained power then be manifest? 613:1-614:1 [693:1-694:1]

2. What have evil angels been waiting for permission to do? What effect will the withdrawal of God’s restraining Spirit have upon the opposing forces? How will Sabbath keepers then be regarded? What decree will be issued against them? 614:2-615:2 [694:2-695:2]

3. What was the greatest occasion for Jacob’s soul anguish in his night of wrestling? While hoping only in God, what had he done for himself? What is the lesson in this for us today? 616:1,2 [697:1,2]

4. What other parallels are there between Jacob’s experience at that time and that of God’s people during the time of trouble? 616:3-619:1 [697:3-700:1]

5. What occasion for self-reproach will add to the distress of the saints? What have they done that keeps their faith from failing? 619:2-620:1 [700:2-701:1]

6. The acceptance of what deception of Satan will prove fatal to many? Why can God not pardon the sins confessed during the time of trouble? What will the trial of their faith do for the children of God? 620:2-621:1 [701:2-4]

7. How should God’s people now be seeking a preparation for the time of trouble? What lessons learned beforehand may lessen the trials of that time? What attitude on the part of the youth would keep them from sin? 621:2-622:3 [702:1-703:2]

8. What will hinder many from obtaining the preparation needed? What was the secret of Christ’s ability to live above sin? What help is promised to everyone who strives to

overcome? 622:4-623:2 [703:3-704:1]

9. In what ways will Spiritualism now manifest its power? What will be the crowning act in the drama of deception? Why will none of God's people be misled in this crisis? 624:1-625:3 [704:3-706:1]

10. What varying experiences of deeper trial now come to the commandment-keepers? What thoughts will bring them comfort and assurance? 626:1-627:1 [706:2-707:3]

11. What is God's "strange act"? Of what terrible crime has the world in reality become guilty? What distinguishes the final judgments from those of all previous time? 627:2-629:1 [707:4-710:2]

12. What provision will God make for the temporal needs of His people? What part will heavenly angels act in protecting them? 629:2-631:1 [710:3-712:2]

13. In what various ways have angels wrought in times past in behalf of God's people? 631:2-632:1 [712:3-713:2]

14. How will the watchmen encourage their fellow-sufferers? What assurance will come from heaven? In times past God has permitted many of his saints to suffer martyrdom: why will they be protected in the final issue? 632:2-633:1 [713:3-715:1]

Chapter 40 — God's People Delivered

1. Under what crucial circumstances does sudden deliverance come to the people of God? By what strange phenomena are the wicked arrested? 635:1-3 [717:1-718:1]

2. What happy experience comes to God's people at this time? 636:1 [718:2]

3. What effect has the presence of God upon the earth? 636:2-637:1 [718:3-719:1]

4. Who are to be raised from the grave to see Christ appear? 637:2 [719:2]

5. What will be the experience of the wicked who were about to destroy the saints? 637:3-638:1 [720:1,2]

6. What further glorious experience will come to the saints? What will be revealed to the gaze of all? What will all then see regarding the Sabbath? 639:1-640:1 [721:1-722:1]

7. What is now made known to God's children? What appears in the heavens? What is the effect upon each class of beholders? 640:3-642:3 [722:3-724:2]

8. What memories, coupled with unspeakable remorse, will be awakened as the wicked hear the voice of God? 642:3-644:1 [724:3-726:1]

9. What contrast in size is seen among the risen saints? To what prospect may all look forward? 644:1,2 [726:2,3]

10. What change comes to the living righteous? Of what is the cloudy chariot composed, in which they ascend to heaven? What ceremony takes place before they enter the City? 645:1-3 [727:1-3]

11. What is seen as the gates of the city are thrown open? 646:1 [728:1]
“When the tide of iniquity overspread the world, and the wickedness of men determined their destruction by a flood of waters, the hand that had planted Eden withdrew it from the earth. But in the final restitution, when there shall be ‘a new heaven and a new earth,’ it is to be restored more gloriously adorned than at the beginning.”—”Patriarchs and Prophets,” p. 62.

12. How will the saints realize the meaning of the invitation, “Enter into the Joy of thy Lord”? 646:2-647:1 [728:2,3]

13. How does Adam add to the Joy of the angels and of the redeemed, as he meets the Saviour? 647:1-648:2 [729:1-730:1]

14. What further scene is enacted upon the crystal sea? Through what experiences have the saints passed that fits them to sing the “new song”? 648:3-650:1 [730:2-731:2]

15. How will the cross of Christ be regarded throughout the ages? What mysteries will be ever unfolding in its light? 651:1-652:2 [732:1-733:2]

Chapter 41 — Desolation of the Earth

1. What Judgments are predicted for Babylon? 653:1-3 [735:1-736:1]

2. What terrible remorse now seizes the rejectors of God’s mercy? How does this differ from repentance for sin? 654:1,2 [736:2,3]

3. How are the false shepherds especially punished? 654:4-655:4 [737:1-738:1]

4. As the six thousand year controversy now reaches its climax, who are included with Satan and his rebellious followers? What is the result to them? 656:1-657:2 [738:2-739:2]

5. To what condition is the earth reduced? What is the “bottomless pit” and in what sense is Satan bound? 658:3-660:2 [740:1-742:2]

6. What will be the special work of the saints during the thousand years? At the close of this period what will take place? 660:4-661:2 [742:4-743:2]

Chapter 42 — The Controversy Ended

1. As the wicked are raised at the end of the thousand years, what scene meets their eye? What do they say? Why should they not have a second probation? Where does the New Jerusalem rest? 662:1-3 [745:1-746:1]

2. What does Satan now hope to accomplish? By what deceptive claims does he secure the confidence of his followers? What conditions seem to give hope to their efforts? 663:1-664:2 [646:2-647:1]

3. As the evil hosts surround the city, what scene of glory appears to them? Who of the redeemed are nearest to the throne? What is the burden of the song of the redeemed? 664:3-665:3 [747:3-748:3]

4. What ceremony takes place in the sight of all? Before the execution of the Judgment upon the wicked, how are they made to realize that their sentence is just? 666:1,2 [749:1,2]

5. What striking scenes are now reenacted in panoramic form? How will each actor be made conscious of the result of his wrong course? 666:3-667:1 [749:3-751:2]

6. How will they then view their refusal to accept the gospel when it was offered to them? What acknowledgment is forced from their lips? 668:3,4 [751:3,4]

7. What memories come to Satan as he views these scenes? 669:1,2 [752:1,2]

8. How is Satan now regarded, as his falsehoods are unmasked? What is he constrained to do at the last? 670:1,2 [753:1,2]

9. What are all creatures in the universe now ready to declare? What declaration does Christ make regarding the redeemed, and what is their responsive song? 670:3-671:1 [753:3-754:1]

10. How does Satan reveal that his character is unchanged? How do his followers respond to his final attempt to lead them? 671:1 [754:2]

11. By what means are sin and sinners to be finally destroyed? What is the experience of the saints during this destruction? 672:1-673:2 [755:1-756:3]

12. What two fold work is accomplished by the fire from heaven? What single reminder of sin will ever remain? How complete has now been the work of restoration of that which was lost? 674:1-3 [757:1-3]

13. What is the nature of the saints' inheritance? What earthly experiences will be missing? How will the saints occupy their time? 674:4-678:2 [758:1-762:2]

14. What great truth regarding the character of God is forever established throughout the universe? 678:3 [762:3]